

# NPL Site Narrative for Elizabethtown Landfill

## ELIZABETHTOWN LANDFILL Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania

**Federal Register Notice:** [March 31, 1989](#)

**Conditions at proposal (June 24, 1988):** The Elizabethtown Landfill occupies 15 acres on West Ridge Road in West Donegal Township, Lancaster County, approximately 1 mile southwest of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. The area is largely agricultural and rural residential. The site is an unlined sandstone quarry that operated as an unpermitted landfill from about 1958 to 1973, accepting an unknown quantity of industrial and municipal wastes from surrounding communities.

Originally, the site operated as a sanitary landfill under several owners. In the late 1960s, Macke Vending Co. purchased the site, operating it until the early 1970s, when it was purchased by SCA Services, Inc. A Consent Decree filed by Pennsylvania ordered operations at the landfill to cease by July 31, 1973.

In 1985, EPA detected chlorobenzene, benzene, 1,1-dichloroethane, and manganese in off-site downgradient monitoring wells, as well as in leachate on the site. The leachate also contained lead. An estimated 13,200 people obtain drinking water from public and private wells within 3 miles of the site. A private well is 800 feet from the site.

EPA also observed leachate seeping into Conoy Creek, which is 800 feet downslope of the site. The creek is used for

recreational activities.

Waste Management, Inc. (WMI) acquired the site when it acquired SCA Services in October 1984. In 1986, WMI covered the site with 2 feet of clay and 6 inches of topsoil, installed vents to control migration of methane, installed a system to collect leachate, constructed a sedimentation basin, and installed a drainage system to channel run-off to the basin.

**Status (March 31, 1989):** EPA is conducting a search to identify parties potentially responsible for wastes associated with the site and will then negotiate with them to conduct a remedial investigation/feasibility study to determine the type and extent of contamination and identify alternatives for remedial action.

*[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See [56 FR 5600](#), February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]*